National Book Policy

3128. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from the Federation of Indian Publishers, New Delhi, demanding laying down of a National Book Policy and reduction and subsidization of postage on Book Post and VPP for Books; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction and response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The suggestions of Federation of Indian Publishers on National Book Policy and reduction and subsidization of postage on Book Post and VPP for books were considered by the Committee on Promotion of Reading Habits and Development of Book Publishing Industry set up by the Government under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Secondary Education & Higher Education. The National Book Trust, India has been designated by the Committee as the nodal agency to prepare a draft document on the policy and programmes covering all aspects of book publishing after wide-ranging consultations.

ICDS in Jharkhand

3129. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof, as being implemented in that State;

(c) the brief details of the status of implementation, including districts presently covered and the number of beneficiaries;

(d) whether any review of implementation of the scheme has

been undertaken on creation of new State of Jharkhand, following reorganization of Bihar; and

(e) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Scheme provides a package of services which include supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, pre-school education, referral services, nutritional and health education to children below 6 years, expectant women and nursing mothers.

(c) The Scheme is being implemented in 152 ICDS Projects covering 17 distrsicts of the State of Jharkhand. Number of beneficiaries in the State is about 12.81 lacs.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

School of IT in JNU

3130. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a School of Information Technology has been set up in JNU where a school of Computer Science exists;

(b) whether other schools and centres were consulted in setting up of IT school, as is the normal practice; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this matter was discussed in the Academic Council or the same was only circulated, stating what was the hurry in such an important matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The School of Information Technology has been set up in JNU as a part of IXth Plan Programme after merging